

Appln No. 09/692,747

Amdt date September 16, 2005

Reply to Office action of March 17, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of this application. Applicants amend claims 1, 16, 29 and 37. Applicants do not cancel any claims or add any new claims. Accordingly, claims 1-45 remain pending.

I. Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants again respectfully request that the Examiner consider the Information Disclosure Statements dated March 28, 2001, May 2, 2001, March 8, 2002, and August 6, 2003. For convenience, Applicants are submitting copies of the same herewith. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the cited references and return signed copies of the associated Forms 1449 with the next communication.

II. Claims Rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7-19, 21-31, 33-39 and 41-45 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sudia, U.S. Patent 6,009,177 (hereinafter "Sudia"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims are requested.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness the Examiner must show that the cited references, combined, teach or suggest each of the elements of a claim. In regard to independent claims 1, 16, 29 and 37, each of these claims includes the elements of "a re-registration wizard for requiring the user to re-register if the second computer used by the user is not the

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same physical computer as the first computer used for registering the user and the user is registered with the first computer in the server system" or similar elements. Applicants believe that Sudia does not teach these elements of the claims. Rather, as the Examiner notes "Sudia specifically requires a user to possess a valid escrow certificate to access the system," thus, registration with the escrow service to obtain a certificate is necessary if any computer that a user is using does not possess such a certificate. See Sudia, col. 21, lines 15-54 and pages 3 and 4 of the Office action mailed March 17, 2005. Therefore, the system of Sudia does not require re-registration "if the second computer used by the user is not the same physical computer as the first computer used for registering the user and the user is registered with the first computer in the server system" (emphasis added) as recited in each of the independent claims. Whether a user is registered with another computer is irrelevant to the system of Sudia. It appears that a user could have any number of valid key pairs for different computers simultaneously registered with a master escrow service according to Sudia. Thus, Sudia does not teach or suggest each of the elements of claims 1, 16, 29 and 37. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of these claims are requested.

In regard to dependent claims 2-5, 7-15, 17, 18, 21-28, 30, 31, 33-38, 39 and 41-45, these claims depend from independent claims 1, 16, 29 and 37 and incorporate the limitations thereof, as well as other limitations that in combination may be patentably distinguishable over the prior art. Thus, at least

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for the reasons mention above in regard to claims 1, 16, 29 and 37, these claims are not obvious over Sudia. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of these claims are requested.

Claims 6, 20, 32 and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sudia in view of Ote et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,023,506 (hereinafter "Ote").

Claims 6, 20, 32 and 40 depend from independent claims 1, 16, 29 and 37 and incorporate the limitations thereof, as well as, other limitations that in combination may be patentably distinguishable over the prior art. Thus, at least for the reasons mentioned above in regard to claims 1, 16, 29 and 37, Sudia does not teach or suggest each of the elements of these claims. Applicants believe that Ote does not cure these defects of Sudia. Applicants have been unable to discern any part of Ote that teaches or suggests the elements of "a re-registration wizard for requiring the user to re-register if the second computer used by the user is not the same physical computer as the first computer used for registering the user and the user is registered with the first computer in the server system" or similar elements that are recited in the independent claims. Thus, Applicants believe that Sudia in view of Ote does not teach or suggest each of the elements of these claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of these claims are requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 1-45, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward toward allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (626) 795-9900.

Respectfully submitted,
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